(a) total number of LPG bottling plants functioning in Gujarat at present;

(b) the capacity of each of these plants and whether they are achieving full bottling capacity;: if- not, the -details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to increase the number of LPG bottling plants in Gujarat to make LPG refills availability easier in the State; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Six LPG bottling plants are operating in the State of Gu jarat. The capacity and location of these plants is as under:

Location	Capacity (TMTPA)
Rajkot	44
Hazira	44
Koyali	102
Surat	12
Gandhinagar	26
Hariyala	34

The above bottling plants are achieving the full bottling capacity. However, the entire capacity of Koyali plant is being resitcd to Ahmedabad for 34 TMTPA and to Gandhar 68 TMTPA, due to which capacity of Koyali plant could not be achieved fully.

(c) New bottling plants are set up on the basis of techno-economic feasibility after taking into consideration the demand potential of, packed LPG in the nearby consumption zones. Currently, the demand of the State of Gujarat is being met by and large in full. However, to meet the future demand of the State of Gujarat, the following new bottling plants are planned to be set up under the VIII Plan proposals :

Location	Capacity (TMTPA)
Ahmedabad	66*
Bhavnagar	44

* Includes capacity of 34 TMTPA proposed under part resitcment of bottling capacity at Koyali.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Policy for Natural Gas Utilisation

3585. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PAT-NAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the Government's policy regarding utilisation of natural gas in the country;

(b) whether Government have any proposal to make some changes in the existing policy; and

(c) if so, the details threof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) The gas utilisation policy of the Government provides for the allocation of gas according to the imputed economic value of natural gas use subject to preference for the power and fertiliser sectors. The policy also provides for the extraction of higher value components such as C2/C3 and LPG from natural gas wherever feasible.

(b) and (c) There is no proposal at present for changes in the exisiting policy.

Fall in Production of Neelam Oil Field

35S6. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of oil from Ncelam Oil Field has gone down;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some foreign companies are of the view that this field can be revived; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to revive the Ncclam Oil Field and by when results arc expected?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The Ncclam Oil Field has shown declining trend in production since 1995-96 as given below:—